

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Julian Hawthorne's volume of "Confessions and Crises," which Ticknor & Co. are bringing out, will include the papers thus entitled: "A Preliminary Confession," "Novels and Agnosticism," "American in Fiction," "Literature for Children," "The Moral Aim in Fiction," "The Maker of Many Books," "Mr. Mallock's Missing Science," "Theodore Winthrop's Writings," "Emerson as an American," "Moteru Magic," and "American Wild Animals in Art."

"J. S. of Dale," otherwise Mr. STINSON, intends to republish his short stories in a volume entitled "A Sentimental Calendar."

Dr. Charles Mackay in his new book on "The Founders of the American Republic," makes the rather sweeping assertion that in this country official corruption permeates all classes except that which includes the President, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and a few others who might be counted on the fingers of both hands. The greatest Dr. Mackay perceives here is the insatiable desire to make the Republic one and indivisible, and ultimately to abolish State rights, so dear to the hearts and the judgment of the founders of the original Union in the days of Washington. The desire is for ascendancy and dominion rather than for liberty—a passion which is the soul of all great democracies." Dr. Mackay adds that the leading thought in American brains is the desire to make the United States the first power in the world, and to relegate Great Britain into the second rank. "All other questions that imperil the peace and liberty of the American people sink into insignificance compared with the growing lust of dominion, and the tendency to the concentration of political power at the expense of the free local governments." It would be interesting to know what observations Dr. Mackay bases his conclusions.

Madame Blanche Roosevelt has prepared for publication a novel with the queer title of "Copper Queen."

The clever English novelist heretofore known as "Basil" is real in the name of Richard Ashe King. He is about to publish a new story entitled "Shadowed Life."

* Post-Lenture Idylls and Other Poems" will soon be published in Boston by Mr. Oscar F. Adams. The volume will contain among other things ten poems, initiating in style Tennyson's "Idylls of the King," and based on divers Mother Goose verses.

"The Fortunes of Phillips Fairfax," a serial story which Mrs. Frances H. Burnett published many years ago in "Peterson's Magazine," has been revised by the author and will be republished by a newspaper syndicate. Mrs. Burnett proposes also to dramatize this story.

"By Women's Wit" is the suggestive title of the novel which Mrs. Alexander (author of "The Wom'sn O'Y") has just brought out in England.

The remarkable memoir of Madame de Tourzel are full of interest and of pathos. "She told us," says Madame de Tourzel in one of her chapters on the royal life at St. Cloud, "that the Emperor Francis I., on leaving for Italy, whence he was not destined to return, called his children to take farewell of them. 'I was the youngest of his daughters,' she added. 'My father took me on his knee, kissed me several times with tears in his eyes, and appeared to find it extremely hard to leave me. This seemed old to those who were present and myself; should perhaps not have remembered it if my present position, reminding me of the circumstance, did not give me a presentiment, for the rest of my life, of a succession of misfortunes only too easily foreseen.' The impression made upon us by these last words was so deep that we burst into tears. The Queen then said to us, with her accustomed grace and goodness, 'I represent myself for having saddened you. Calm yourselves before you reach the castle; let us unite our courage. Providence will perhaps not make us so unhappy as we think!'

The Rev. H. R. Easwells—who, it must be confessed is not a brilliant writer—has in the press a new work in five volumes entitled "Christ and Christianity."

"The Story of Jack and the Beanstalk"—a version in hexameters by the Hon. Hallam Tennyson, with fifty illustrations by the late Randolph Caldecott—will be brought out by the Macmillans. This will doubtless be a delightful little book for the oldsters who appreciate the artist's humor, as well as for the youngsters who delight in the story.

Mr. Blackburn has completed his memoir of Caldecott and it will soon be published. It will be embellished by many of the artist's unpublished drawings.

"The Old Order Changes," Mr. Mallock's new novel, is not admired by "The Pall Mall Gazette." The paper says that "it is disfigured by a want of style which 'Arry of the Music Halls might mean"; and it declares that Mr. Mallock himself—that his "novels are rotten eggs, dung in the face of literature." It is doubtful, however, to add that there is one idea in the last volume which is good enough to save it from condemnation.

Mr. Mallock's "one good idea," in "The Gazette's" opinion, comes as a sequel to the question "What does our duty lie—which of these two opposite things—in renouncing our position or in maintaining it?" Mr. Mallock insists that "political economy and the social conditions of labor have become in our day indeed a part of theology—the young branch," and he proposes to reconcile socialism, communism, Socialism and religion by the following expedient: "Why should not the old monastic communism of riches be revived in the modern world, under the form of a renunciation of profits? If all the directors of industry, the inventors, the sharp men, the men of energy and enterprise, through whose means industry grows in productivity, would still exert themselves to maintain and increase production, and at the same time forego their claim to the increased products, then, she says—and she is perfectly, she is obviously right—the Socialistic problem would be solved. But, as we said just now, to forego these natural claims would be nothing less than a special monastic virtue of precisely the same character as poverty and celibacy. . . . The idea is not that. What has presented itself to the mind of Miss Consuelo Burton is a vision of some new industrial order, or order, under which the monastic vow of poverty might be applied to our modern factory system. Her notion, in fact, of a monastery or a convent is a modern factory, where the hands should be monks or nuns; where the spires should rise side by side with the chimney; and the quiet cloister should retreat the mind after the rattle of wheels, and hoofs, and bells. The profits, of course, instead of going to the capitalists, the manager, and the specially gifted few, would be the property of the whole body. They would not, however, be divided among the workers and thus take the form of increased wages. That result would stultify the whole scheme. The whole monastic body would live in voluntary poverty—or lower wages, rather than on higher wages, than the average worker outside; and all their profits would be set by as a fund to relieve distress, especially such as is caused by commercial crisis."

Mrs. Main, formerly Mrs. Fred Burnaby, has written a book called "High Life and Towers of Silence."

One of the most convenient little books ever published is "The Pocket Atlas of the World," prepared by John Bartholomew, F.R.G.S., and published here by G. P. Putnam's Sons. It is a little marvel of full and compact information and its maps are excellent.

A "Jubilee edition" of the "Pilgrim Papers," edited with notes by Charles Dickens's eldest son—the "Charles" of his infinite jests—will soon be published by the Macmillans. Many illustrations will be inserted in the text.

Mr. Georges Obnet himself has been dramatizing his novel, "La Grande Marnere"—the book from which Mr. Charles Coghlan has taken his play of "Phenix." Obnet calls his new country place, where he is now writing, "Les Abysses." There he lives with his wife and children a truly rural life, dressed like a simple peasant, who is up at daybreak, hunting the hare and the partridge in the surrounding woods. After this healthy exercise he retires to his room and works till noon, while Mme. Obnet, who is his secretary, copies the manuscripts which are ready for the printer. When Paris, the fortunate author, whose books and plays are equally successful, works all the day. He only goes out to look in at Alton's or to go to the club of the Place Vendome, of which he is a member of the committee for the arrangement of shows and entertainments. His favorite diversion in Paris is a game of billiards with a few friends.

The first half-yearly volume of "Lippincott's Magazine" under its new management shows little change as regards the bulk of its matter. It owes a little more, perhaps, to foreign pens, than of old; but that it is certain no one will complain while it secures such amusing bits of work as Mr. Lang's "Castle Dangerous" and such clever serials as "A Bachelor's Blunder." The periodical is attractive as a judicious purveyor of light and easy reading.

The Macmillans announce a new issue in two volumes of Mr. Anger's edition of Charles Lamb's letters.

The busy Miss Yonge has prepared a popular account of Queen Victoria's reign, to be published under the title of "The Victorian Half-Century."

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